

The listing of claims presented below will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A process for the preparation of a glucan product from yeast which comprises:
  - [a)] contacting a particulate branched  $\beta$ -1,3-glucan having  $\beta$ -1,3-linked and  $\beta$ -1,6-linked chains therein with a  $\beta$ -1,6-glucanase under conditions such that the resulting glucan is comprised of  $\beta$ -1,3-linked glucose units and is essentially free of  $\beta$ -1,6-linked chains and containing four or less  $\beta$ -1,6-bound glucose units.
2. (Previously Presented) A process according to Claim 1 wherein said  $\beta$ -1,6-glucanase is obtained from the group of microorganisms consisting of *Trichoderma longibrachiatum*, *Trichoderma reesei*, *Trichoderma harzianum*, *Rhizopus chinensis*, *Gibberella fujikuroi*, *Bacillus circulans*, *Mucor lilmalis* and *Acinetobacter*.
- 3-6. (Cancelled)
7. (Previously Presented) The product of the process of Claim 1, comprising a particulate branched  $\beta$ -1,3-glucan with  $\beta$ -1,3-linked side chains being attached by a  $\beta$ -1,6-linkage and being essentially free of  $\beta$ -1,6-linked chains and containing four or less  $\beta$ -1, 6-bound glucose units.
8. (Previously Presented) The product of the process of Claim comprising a branched  $\beta$ -1,3-glucan with  $\beta$ -1,3-linked side chains being attached by a  $\beta$ -1,6-linkage and being essentially free of  $\beta$ -1,6-linked chains and containing four or less  $\beta$ -1,6-bound glucose units.

9. (Previously Presented) An insoluble particulate yeast glucan especially from the yeast family *Saccharomyces* wherein a branched  $\beta$ -1,3-glucan with  $\beta$ -1,3-linked side chains being attached by a  $\beta$ -1,6-linkage and being essentially free of  $\beta$ -1,6-linked chains and containing four or less  $\beta$ -1,6-bound glucose units.

10. (Previously Presented) A process for the production of a solubilized  $\beta$ -(1-3)-glucan particle from yeast, which comprises contacting an insoluble glucan from yeast having a backbone of  $\beta$ -(1-3)-linked glucose units with at least one  $\beta$ -(1-3)-linked side chain of at least 1 glucose units attached thereto with a solubilizing agent.

11. (Cancelled)

13. (Previously Presented) A process for the preparation of a feed glucan product from yeast, which comprises:

[a] contacting the feed grade yeast glucan being a branched  $\beta$ -1,3-glucan having  $\beta$ -1,3-linked and  $\beta$ -1,6-linked chains therein with a  $\beta$ -1,6-glucanase under conditions such that the resulting glucan is comprised of  $\beta$ -1,3-linked glucose units and is essentially free of  $\beta$ -1,6-linked chains and containing four or less  $\beta$ -1,6-bound glucose units.

14-15. (Cancelled)

16. The product of the process of Claim 13, comprising a branched  $\beta$ -1,3-glucan with  $\beta$ -1,3-linked side chains being attached by a  $\beta$ -1,6-linkage and being essentially free of  $\beta$ -1,6-linked chains and containing four or less  $\beta$ -1,6-bound glucose units.

17. (Previously Presented) The product according to Claim 9, wherein the yeast species *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*.

18. (Previously Presented) The process according to Claim 13, wherein the yeast is from the family *Saccharomyces*.

19. (Previously Presented) The process to Claim 18, wherein the yeast species is *Sacchromyces cereviseae*.
20. (Previously Presented) A method of increasing immunostimulation in fish by administering to fish a glucan product comprising a branched  $\beta$ -1, 3-glucans with  $\beta$ -1,3-linked side chains being attached by a  $\beta$ -1,6-linkage and being essentially free of  $\beta$ -1,6 linked chains and containing four or less  $\beta$ -1,6-bound glucose units.
21. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 20 wherein the glucan product is administered to the fish by IP injection.
22. (New) The product of the process of Claim 1 with immunostimulatory properties.
23. (New) The product of the process of Claim 1 with immunomodulatory properties.